

Remarks

Applicants have amended claims 1, 3, 12, 13, 18, and 21, and have added claim 23. Applicants submit that claims 1-15 and 18-23 are currently pending in this patent application. Applicants now address each and every point raised in the above-identified Office action as follows:

I. Rejection of Claims for Double Patenting

Claims 1 to 15 and 19 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1 to 15 of U.S. Patent No. 6,639, 025. Applicants enclose herewith a properly executed Terminal Disclaimer addressing this basis for rejection, and respectfully request that such rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn in view thereof.

II. Rejection of Claims 1 to 6 and 18 to 20 Under Section 112

Claims 1 to 6 and 18 to 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 18 to further clarify the type of amine curative agent and elastomeric resinous intermediate recited in these claims. Applicant submits that the amendments made to these claims is well supported by the written description, and that in view of such amendments the subject matter of these independent claims is well enabled by the written description.

In view thereof, Applicants respectfully requests that the rejection of independent claims 1 and 18, and the claims depending respectively therefrom, under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

III. Rejection of Claims 7 to 11 Under Section 112

Claims 7 to 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Applicants have amended independent claim 7 to further clarify the type of elastomeric resinous intermediate recited in these claims. Applicant submits that the amendment made to this claim is well supported by the written description, and that in view of such amendment the subject matter of independent claim 7 is well enabled by the written description.

In view thereof, Applicants respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

IV. Rejection of Claims 12 to 15, 21 and 22 Under Section 112

Claims 12 to 15, 21 and 22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Applicants have amended claim 12 to further clarify the type of elastomeric resinous intermediate recited in this claim, and has amended claims 13 to further clarify the type of metal catalyst recited in this claims. Applicant submits that the amendments made to these claims is well supported by the written description, and that in view of such amendments the subject matter of these independent claims is well enabled by the written description.

In view thereof, Applicants respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 12 to 15, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

V. Rejection of Claims 18 and 21 Under Section 112

Claims 18 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Applicants have amended these claims to clarify that the epoxy chain fragments are linear, and submit that such amendments are well supported by the written description. In view thereof, the subject matter of these independent claims is well enabled by the written description.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the rejection of claims 18 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

VI. Rejection of Claims 3 and 13 Under Section 112

Claims 3 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Applicants have amended these claims to clarify the type of metal catalyst recited in these claims, and submit that such amendments are well supported by the written description. In view thereof, the subject matter of these independent claims is well enabled by the written description.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the rejection of claims 3 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

VII. Conclusion


For the reasons presented above, Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment be entered, that the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112 be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that claims 1 to 15, and 18 to 23 be passed to allowance.

In the event that this response does not result in the allowance of this application, Applicants respectfully request that the examiner please contact its below-identified patent attorney for the purpose of discussing the same.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees necessary to Deposit Account 10-0440, or to credit any overpayment to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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